



LEROY D. BACA, SHERIFF

County of Los Angeles
Sheriff's Department Headquarters
4700 Ramona Boulevard
Monterey Park, California 91754-2169



August 2, 2010

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Supervisors:

In July 2009, the Governor of California signed legislation that substantially reduced the amount paid by state trial courts for law enforcement services provided by county Sheriff's Departments. Specifically, Government Code Section 69926 was amended to exempt the trial courts from paying Retiree Health Insurance (RHI) benefits for Sheriff's deputies assigned to the courts. The Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department (Department) is now absorbing approximately \$4.5 million per year in RHI costs as a result of this legislation.

Our Department filed a Senate Bill 90 (SB90) test claim with the Commission on State Mandates (Commission) in June 2010 to seek recovery of this amount, asserting the new legislation is an unfunded mandate based on the Department's statutory requirement under Government Code 69922 to provide trial court security. Presuming the Commission approves the claim, the SB90 procedure is a time consuming process, and it often takes years before approved claims are paid.

Until the Commission rules on the test claim, the loss of contract revenue will be borne solely by the Department's budget as an additional cost; no additional funds have been allocated by the County to offset the Department's non-reimbursed costs. The RHI benefit has been included as an allowable cost under Function 8 of Rule of Court 810, which defined allowable costs since the inception of the Lockyer-Isenberg Trial Court Funding act of 1997. It is improper for the State of California to now arbitrarily shift this cost to the Department.

Therefore, I request that you lobby members of the State Legislature to rescind this portion of Government Code 69926. As an alternative, I ask that you make a

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commensurate reduction in the maintenance of effort payment to the State pursuant to Government Code Section 77201, and credit the amount to the Department's budget.

If you have questions regarding this matter, please contact Richard Barrantes, Chief of Court Services Division, at (626) 300-3100, or Glen Dragovich, Assistant Director of Administrative Services Division, at (323) 526-5191.

Sincerely,



LERROY D. BACA
SHERIFF